Edn & PH (1938) Department.

Ms. SERIES.

G.O. No. 3564 P.H

DATED 7. 10. 38

[Despatch Abstract.]

Medical Institutions — Lady Goschen Hospital, Mangalore — Complaints against the woman Sub asst. surgeon Mrs. Thomas

Recorded —

Jerome A. Saldanha
Retired Jt. Dt. Judge and Additional Sessions Judge, Advocate
M. L. C.

CMO 17660

Mangalore,
Balmatta, Kankanady P. O.
S. Kanara.

22nd September, 193 7

To

The Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan,

Minister, Public Health Department,

Fort, St. George, M A D R A S.

Dear Hon'ble Sir,

Re: Mangalore Lady Goschen Hospital Muddle

In accordance with my undertaking on the above subject, I sought an interview with the D.M.O., Capt.K.K.Nambyar. I succeeded in getting from him an admission that Mrs. Thomas (Sub-Asst.Surgeon and R.M.O.) is the root cause of the troubles. He also had to admit that her immediate transfer is essential for the restoration of order.

As to Mrs. Thomas - she has a bewitching appearance but ---- certainly she possesses the fatal gift for mischief and intrigue. On this account she was under orders of transfer already in May last, but she succeeded in getting it cancelled with the help of D.M.O. She is at the bottom of an unjust and unscrupulous campaign of --- persecution that is being carried on against the following members of the staff:

(1) Dr.(Mrs) Wright, M.B.B.S., Asst.Surgeon. I personally know how popular and efficient a Doctor she was. She is transfered to Trichy, relieved of the persecution to which she was subjected here.

Extract, taken and added to the file relating to complaints against the Hony Physician

(2) Dr.M.Shiva Rau, L.R.C.P & S(Edin), L.M(Dub) etc., Hony.Obstetrician. For many years, he has been a leading practitioner here respected by all sections of the people for his kind and efficient services. He has been thrice elected President of the South - Kanara Dt. Medical Association. He also does Honorary work in the Kadri Maternity Home - a very popular and charitable institut in that locality. Its report for 1936 herewith enclosed will give

Jerome A. Saldanha
Retired Jt. Dt. Judge and Additional Sessions Judge, Advocate
M. L. C.

Mangalore,
Balmatta, Kankanady P. O.
S. Kanara.

22nd September, 1957

will give an idea of the amount of service to the poor that is being rendered by him, and the testimonials therein will be found impressive.

(3) Mrs. D'Souza, an officient staff nurse and very respectable, t wife of a rising Doctor, H.C.D'souza, M.B.B.S., D.G.O., in Mangalore. Soon after she joined duty after her maternity leave, she had to apply for casual leave. She was treated harshly and she was subjected by the D.M.O. to an examination by a so called board of three male Doctor (leaving out the Lady Asst.Surgeon, Mrs.Wright), including the D.M.O, Asst.D.M.O. and an Hon.Asst.Surgeon - quite a novel procedure! She was not granted the leave and had to resign in despair.

(4) During the short regime of Capt.Nambyar, 4 or 5 other nurses also had to leave the hospital one by one in an exodus of transfers.

(5) Mr.Mendonca, the present food-contractor of the hospital. He i being most cruelly victimised at the instigation of one Venkatrau (an ex-convict and brother of the former food-contractor displaced by - Mendonca). This Venkatrau has found harbour in the quarters of Mrs. Thomas and he lives in the hospital premises - which is most objection During the regime of Dr.Sadashiva Rao, the previous D.M.O., when I -- visited the Wenlock Hospital, I detected him in the offices of the clerks where he had no business to be at all. On my bringing this to the notice of Dr.Sadashiva Rao, the then D.M.O. and of the then Surgeon General, he was warned off. I have strong grounds to believ that this Venkatrau, at the connivance of Mrs.Thomas, finds easy way into the store-room of the food-contractor Mendonca by using a dupli key during the night and tampers with the butter & etc. I have als reasons to suspect that he has been allowed to tamper with the sampl of milk sent for chemical analysis to Madras. And poor Mendonca has

Jerome A. Saldanha
Retired Jt. Dt. Judge and
Additional Sessions Judge, Advocate
M. L. C.

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Mangalore,
Balmatta, Kankanady P. O.
S. Kanara.

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has been all repeatedly subjected to very heavy and ruinous fines. The duplicate samples sent by Mendonca have been found good by the analyser.

The irresistible conclusion I have come to after seing all the parties concerned and going deeply into the matter is that the D.M.O. has succumbed to the witcheries of Mrs.Thomas and that he is playing into her hands. By indiscriminately harassing the workers in the hospital, he has brought the administration of the institution into contempt and disrepute. It is high time to call a halt to this reckless and unprecedented tyranny.

In fairness the aggrieved parties should be given due opportunity to explain their cases, in an inquiry held independent of the present D.M.O..Capt.Nambyar.

I have taken keen interest in the extension and improvement of the Lady Goschen Hospital as may be seen from the proceedings of the late Legislative Council (See Vols.XXII, page 367, Vol.XXV page 67, Vo .LI page 1197); and therefore need no apology to concern myself in its welfare with some zeal.

Yours faithfully,

Jerome A. Saldanha
M.L.C

Copy forwarded to the Surgeon General
A.J.S.

Jerome A. Saldanha
Retired Jt. Dt. Judge and
Additional Sessions Judge, Advocate
M. L. C.

CRO 17978

Mangalore,
Balmatta, Kankanady P. O.
S. Kanara.

24th September, 1937

The Hon'ble Dr.T.S.S.Rajan,
Minister, Public Health Department,
Fort, St. George, Madras.

Dear Hon'ble Sir,

Ht 1-3 ante In continuation of my letter dated 22nd September, 1937, I beg to se you a copy of a letter from Capt.Nambyar and reply to it. They speak for themselves.

Yours faithfully,

Jerome A. Saldanha

Encl:1.

CONFIDENTIAL. TRUE COPY. #5

District Medical Office,
South Kanara dated 21-9-1937.

My dear Mr. Saldanha,

Ref:- Your letter dated 18-9-1937.

I am leaving for camp early this morning. I wanted to see you before I left for camp but pressure of work infortunately prevented me from doing so.

I thank you sincerely for the compliment you have been kind enough to pay me in your letter. I shall be very glad to have your valuable co-operation in the improvement of the two local Government Hospitals.

Regarding the proposed transfer of woman sub assistant surgeon Dr. Mrs. Thomas, I regret that on further consideration I cannot recommend the transfer in the matter for the following reasons:-

Dr. Mrs. Thomas got a transfer to Mangalore specially requesting for it. One of her brothers is a bed ridden life long invalid and thoroughly dependant on her. The presence of her other brother in Mangalore who is a teacher in the Balmatta Seminary is, I understand of great help to her, especially in view of the fact that she lost her mother recently at Mangalore. Moreover, I have found in her work nothing to call for a transfer. If, as you stated, she is not popular with the subordinates, it is in my opinion due to her being strict in her duties. Moreover when the Surgeon-General recently transferred her from this place a mahazar from the public of Mangalore was sent and the Surgeon-General cancelled the transfer.

In these circumstances I hope you will agree with me that I am not justified in recommending her transfer from this station.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/.K.K.Nambyar, 21-9-37
District Medical Officer,
South Kanara, Mangalore.

To

J.A.Saldanha Esq.B.A.?L.L.B
Addl.District & Sessions Judge,
Mangalore.

Jerome A. Saldanha
Retired Dt. Judge and
Additional Sessions Judge, Advocate
M. L. C.

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Mangalore,
Balmatta, Kankanady P. O.
S. Kanara.

24th September, 1937

Dear Capt. Hamber,

Ref: Your letter dated 21-9-37.

I thank you for your kindness and courtesy. I had already written to Hon'ble Dr. Rajan just before I received your letter. But as I find that you have changed your mind as to the desirability of transferring Dr.Mrs.Thomas, I am placed in an awkward position and am put to the necessity of stating this matter as it stands to the Health Minister. I request you to kindly excuse me. Kindly permit me also to review the reasons now adduced by you for retaining her:

1. Her domestic troubles - I fully sympathise with her; and if harmony could be restored even after retaining her, I am the last person for to press for her transfer. But is it right to balance her private difficulties against the good and harmonious working of a humanitarian institution of public importance.

2. Her efficiency in work - perhaps you have not properly put it to the public mind. What about the case of rupture of uterus that took place in the Lady Goschen Hospital this month on 5- - ? What about the recommendations against her by your predecessor in office? What was her relation with Dr.Mrs. right, ...Asst. Surgeon, the number of nurses that left the Hospital?

All her predecessors, L. C's, from 19[illegible] to 1936, for about a quarter of a century, all had higher medical qualifications than Miss.Janaki, Miss Dsouza, Miss Ephraim, Miss Theophil, Miss G[illegible], Mrs.Syriacose, Miss.Bright. They were all M.B.B.S's and none of them ... Such an important institution should certainly have ... an Asst. Surgeon.

Jerome A. Saldanha
Retired Jt. Dt. Judge and Additional Sessions Judge. Advocate
M. L. C.

Mangalore,
Balmatta, Kankanady P. O.
S. Kanara.

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5. What you call her strictness, I have found after careful inquiry to amount to harsh treatment in a spirit of vindictiveness of the subordinate menial staff in an overworked and understaffed constitution.

I am afraid you are too tender-hearted to Mrs.Dr.Thomas. I would you were as tender hearted to the other members of the staff, as well as her

4. as to the Mahazar from the public in her favour, this of course cannot be considered seriously: any one can collect any number of signatures for the mere asking and Government as a rule disregards it. (Sec, C.H.O.145).

I sincerely believe that by persisting to retain her, you are really weakening her case which is not strong.

For the sake of harmony, as a last and forlorn hope, may I suggest to you to forthwith oust the notorious Venkatrau from the precincts of the Women's Hospital. In your predecessor's time, I had once reported against him to the D.M.O. and the then Surgeon General and he had been warned off.

It has come to my knowledge that on 11- -37 at 2.30 p.m. (before the time open to the visitors) Venkatrau and another entered the surgical wards of the Lady Goschen Hospital and got into the room in which a patient of Caesarean section recently operated was lying, and created an uproar by insulting the ward attendant and others, thereby upsetting the patient who was already in a precarious condition. I do not know what action has been taken in this matter or going to be taken at all.

Yours Sincerely,

(Sd) Jerome A. Saldanha

Copy to
1. The Hon'ble Dr.Rajan,
2. Lt.Col.Wilson, Surgeon General to the Govt. of Madras.

E.&.P.H. Dept.

Complaint against the administration of Lady Goschen Hospital, Mangalore.

C.No. 17660 from Mr. J.A.Saldanha M.L.C., dated 22-9-'37.

Memo. No. 17660-1.D_2 P.H. d. 5-X-'37.

Referred to the Surgeon General in continuation of Memo. No. 16751-1 D_2 P.H. dated 20-9-'37. He is requested to enquire into the matter thoroughly and report.

28.9.37 The S.G.'s attention is invited to Mr. J.A. Saldanha's letter dt 22.9.37 addressed to the Hon'ble Minister for P.H. regarding Lady Goschen Hospl. Mangalore a copy of which has been sent to him (S.G.) and he is requested to enquire into the matter thoroughly and submit a report to this Govt with suggestions for the proper working of the institution.

28.9.37.

To

The S.G. (with enclosures).

(with Cf. in original to be returned with reply.)

Edn & PH Dept

Medical Institutions - Lady Goschen Hospital, Mangalore. Complaints against the woman Subast Surgeon Mrs Thomas

Memo 22999-A-1 Dr PH 18.2.38

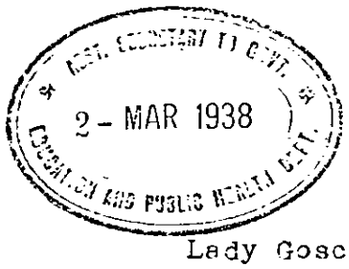
The S.G is requested to expedite the submission of the report called for in memo no 17660-1 (Dr) PH dy 5-10-37 and to report when it may be expected. He is also requested to report whether ~~the humble petitioner could be~~ it would not be desirable to transfer ~~or cause to be transferred~~ the woman Sub-assistant Surgeon Mrs. Thomas from ~~the~~ the hospital

.2.38

To the S.G (9 Items)

Education and Public Health DEPARTMENT.

Received ..... 19 *Registered* 19



9460

Subject.

Lady Goschen Hospital - Mangalore - complaint against woman sub assistant surgeon Mrs. S. Thomas.

ENCLOSURES.
No. .....
.....
Spare copies .....

Ref.No. 2600-2 Establishment/37

Station Madras, *Dated the* 1st. March 1938.

From (Name) Major-General N.M.Wilson, C.B.E., F.R.C.S., I.M.S.,
(Designation) Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

To The Secretary to the Government of Madras,
Education and Public Health Department.

Sir,

Ref:-Government Memorandum No.22999 A-1. D2. P. H., dated 18-2-1938.

I have the honour to state that a reply to Government Memorandum No.17660-1. D2. P.H., dated 5-10-1937 has already been sent - vide this office letter Ref.No.2600-1-E dated 23-10-1937 (copy herewith furnished).

The woman sub assistant surgeon has since applied for leave on medical certificate and it is proposed to sanction the same. She will not be posted to Mangalore on her return from leave.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Major-General, I.M.S.,
Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras.

Copy of letter from the Surgeon-General with the Government of Madras, Ref. No. 2600-1-E, dated 28-10-1937, to the Secretary to the Government of Madras, Education and Public Health Department.

Ref:-Government Memorandum No. 17660-1 D2. P. H., dated 5-10-1937.

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I have the honour to request that the Government may be pleased to ask the Collector of South Kanara to hold an enquiry in the matter. The letter of Mr. J. A. Saldhana, M. L. C., is herewith returned.

Correspondence relating
to Dr. (Mrs) Wright received
along with Mr. Salsbury's
letters, about Mrs Thomas

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To The Postmaster
Mangalore

7-10-37.

Dear Mr. Saldanha,

My wife's and my family are all "British European Subjects" vide Chapter 33 Criminal Procedure Code, and we are all members of the Church of England. My wife's official duties brought her to Mangalore, where she has been for 3 years & 4 months. She is not a domiciled of this place nor any of her family connections are. My interests are centred on the Nilgiris, and I have therefore spent short intervals here. Since my wife's transfer, She has come here on two separate occasions as a Court witness, and after the treatment meted out to her by the local hospital authority, it behoves me to accompany her each time, and I am now waiting on the weather and the Motor works at Jeppoo to depart from here for the Nilgiris by road. You want to know something about our families in writing, to convince you that the documents that I showed you are Genuine. Well, as a whole our forbears have all been through the British Army and Spent most of their time in India, and many are buried here for whom we hold a great respect and love for this Country. The Lineage of My Father in law discloses a Baronetcy and two Knighthoods, which were granted for services, which to day are records of History. My Maternal Grandfather and Father were servants of the Madras Government, serving the Same for nearly 38 years in the Police and Registration departments, to the thorough Satisfaction of all Concerned. My father was a keen Volunteer and received his Volunteer long Service and Good Conduct Medal, After his retirement he was appointed a 1st Class Bench Magistrate for Coonoor and Wellington, which he relinquished about 2 years ago. My maternal Grandfather served in the Army

in the Royal Horse Artillery with distinction in the Great Indian Mutiny of 1857 and the subsequent wars in Burmah. On retirement he served in the Madras Jail Department and after was the Chairman of the Coimbatore Municipality. His war services procured a monthly pension of Rs50/- from the Central Revenues (India) in 1921 for his unmarried daughter who was born during the Mutiny days and who returned to my mother (her only Sister) at that time. My mother with all her heavy household duties did much for the Indian Army during the Great War for which she was officially thanked. My younger brother for services rendered during this war, holds a position in the London County Council. My wife prior to entering the Madras Services held important posts in Northern India, and was snapped up at Ootacamund when she applied for her present post. I served during the war as a Military Assistant Surgeon and on returning to India resigned to work together with my wife. So long as we were in the North all went well, but these last 16 years have been very trying, especially at Guntur and now at Bangalore. In the latter place, my wife served in every way possible for the good of the Lady Lytchen Hospital and all its poor patients, and this can be borne out by E.M. Gaurne Esqre ICS, Rao Bahadur Chanda Rao (Retired Imperial Bank Agent) and other leading Indian and European residents. I have abided by the law in most trying circumstances, and if the Government of Madras is pleased to hold an independent enquiry, I am confident that they will be convinced that my wife and I require justice weather with all those big and small who have been put to trouble, and will punish in a fitting manner those deserving of it. The whole present position has been brought about by two ex-Convicts who are known to black mail and forge for personal gain, and are in close touch with the local Hospitals. In Conclusion the same can be said of my domicile as stated re my wife's

Yours sincerely,
Cloughe

15 Kaikavoor P.O
8 | 10 | 37 15/

Dear Hon. Dr. Rajan,

You asked me at my last interview at Madras a question about the domicile of Mr and Mrs Wright. Mr Wright having come here with Mrs Wright summoned as a witness in Court. I asked him to give a brief account of his & Mrs Wright's domicile and antecedents. I enclose

this city, and with a typewritten copy of th

If there be any other points arising, I shall be glad to ~~elucidate them~~, in case. I am respectfully

Wm Wood Company
Foreman
Yours ~~truly~~
Jerome A Jacobs

To Hon. Dr. Rayson
Health Member
Quarantine

O. The Post Master,

Mangalore,

7th October, 1937.

Dear Mr. Saldanha,

My wife's and my family are all "British European Subjects" vide chapter 33 Criminal Procedure Code and we are all Members of the Church of England. My wife's official duties brought her to Mangalore, where she has been for 3 years 4 months. She is not a domicile of this place nor are any of her family connections. My interests are centred on the Nilgiris, and I have therefore spent short intervals here. Since my wife's transfer, she has come here on two separate occasions as a Court witness, and after the treatment metted out to her by the local --- hospital authority or not, it behoves me to accompany her each time, and I am now waiting on the Weather and the - Motor Works at Jeppo to depart from here for the Nilgiris by road. You want to know something about our families in writing, to convince you that the documents that I - showed you are genuine. Well, as a whole our forbears have all been through the British Army and spent most of their time in India and many are buried here for whom we hold a great respect and love for this country. The -- lineage of my Father-in-Law discloses a Baronetcy and two Knighthoods, which were granted for services, which today are records of History. My paternal Grand-father and Father were Servants of the Madras Government, serving the same for nearly 38 years in the Police and Registration Departments, to the thorough satisfaction of all concerned My father was a keen volunteer and received his volunteer long service and good-conduct medal, after his retirement he was appointed a I Class Bench Magistrate for Coonoor and Wellington, which he relinquished about 2 years ago.

My maternal grand-father served in the Army in the Royal Horse Artillery with distinction in the Great Indian Mutiny of 1857 and the subsequent Wars in Burmah. On retirement he served in the Madras Jail Department and after was the Chairman of the Coimbatore Municipality. His War Service procured a monthly pension of Rs.50/- from the Central Revenues (India) in 1921 for his unmarried daughter, who was born during the Mutiny days and who returned to my mother (her only sister) at that time. My mother with all her heavy house hold duties did much for the Indian Army during the Great War for which she was officially thanked. My younger brother for services rendered during this War, holds a position in the London County Council. My wife prior to entering the Madras Services held important posts in Northern India and was snapped up at Ooracamund when she applied for her present post. I served during the War as as a Military Assistant Surgeon and on returning to India resigned to work together with my wife. So long as we were in the North all went well, but these last 15 years have been very trying, especially at Guntur and now at Mangalore. In the latter place, my wife served in every way possible for the good of the Lady Goschen Hospital and all its poor -- patients, and this can be borne out by E.M.Gawne Esq., ILC.S. Rao Bahadur Ananda Rao (Retired Imperial Bank Agent) and other leading Indian and European residents. I have abided by the law in most trying circumstances and if the Government of Madras is pleased to hold an independent enquiry, I am confident that they will be convinced that my wife and I -- require justice, together with all these big and small who have been put to trouble, and will punish in a fitting manner those deserving of it. The whole present position has been brought at out by two ex-convicts who are known to black mail and forge for personal gain, and are in close touch with the Local Hospitals.

In conclusion, the same can be said of my domicile as stated re. my wife's.

Yours Sincerely,

Sd/. C.Wright.

Edn & P.H Dept

Ct No 9 H 50. From the S.G. No. 2600-2 E:37 dt 1.3.1938.

p.n.f

Medical Institution - Lady Goschen Hospital, Mangalore - Complaints against the Woman sub asst Surgeon Mrs. Thomas.

The notes relating to this file are stitched with G.O. No. 15 9 dated 14.6.1938 relating to the punishment of Mr. J. Koshi. In the notes it is stated further that no action is called for in this file. The papers may now be ~~for purposes of reference~~

Order 3564 P.H dt 7-10-38
Ms

Recorded.

NA
6/10/38.

7/10

7-10-38.